GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:571
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2002
ECO-TOURISM IN ORISSA
BIKRAM KESHARI DEO

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United Nations has declared the year 2002 as International year of Eco-Tourism;

(b) if so, the steps the Government have taken to encourage eco-tourism in the country;

(c) whether Orissa has been earmarked as a Eco-Tourism destination and funds have been provided to the State for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER FOR TOURISM & CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c) The Central Department of Tourism promotes Eco-tourism in the country by extending Central financial assistance to eco-friendly tourism projects prioritised in consultation with the State Governments/Union Territories. The Central Government encourages the States/Union Territories to develop Eco-tourism spots in their States/Union Territories. Besides this, eco-tourism attractions are given wide publicity in the country including that of Orissa as well as in the overseas to attract tourists.

(d) The Central Department of Tourism sanctioned the Rs. 45.00 lakhs during 2000-01 for Development of trekking base camp at Kuldiha- Distt. Balasore.